

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1829

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USNMR SHAPE

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CINCLANT

S E C R E T USNATO 2699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DPC, MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION OF NUNN AMENDMENTS AND
WARNING OR WAR

REF: A. STATE 110828

B. STATE 111696

C. USNATO 2634

1. MISSION SUGGESTS FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS IN FINAL PREPARATION
FOR SECDEF COMMENTS ON NUNN AMENDMENTS (RESTRICTED SESSION) (REF A),
AND WARNING OF WAR (MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE) (REF B).

2. NUNN AMENDMENTS

A. ON NUNN STANDARDIZATION REPORT PER SE, THERE WOULD APPEAR
TO BE LITTLE TO SAY, EXCEPT TO NOTE SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS AND PRO-
VISION OF COPIES TO ALLIES--ESPECIALLY SINCE IT NOW APPEARS UK MOD
MASON IS PLANNING TO INITIATE A FAIRLY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF
STANDARDIZATION IN RESTRICTED SESSION OF DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING.

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B. ON NUNN MANPOWER REPORT, ALLIES ARE ALSO WELL INFORMED, BUT
WOULD SURELY APPRECIATE BRIEF READOUT OF BRIGADE 76 LATEST STATUS.

C. ON NUNN NUCLEAR REPORT, ALLIES WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARN-

ING NATURE OF EARLY REACTIONS FROM CONGRESS, IF ANY. THEY WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN HEARING ABOUT PLANS FOR FOLLOW-UP STUDIES AND CONSULTATIONS, BUT WOULD PROBABLY ACCEPT SUGGESTION THAT DISCUSSIONS OF THAT SUBJECT IN ANY DETAIL SHOULD AWAIT NPG MEETING IN JUNE.

3. WARNING OF WAR IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. IF US VERSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PARAGRAPHS 22 AND 23(REF C) DOES NOT PREVAIL UNANIMOUSLY AT MAY 15 DPC MEETING, THE ALTERNATIVE BRACKETED VERSION WILL, OF COURSE, BE BEFORE DEFENSE MINISTERS ON MAY 22. WE TRUST THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WOULD NOT CHOOSE TO DEFEND US VERSION ON STRICT GROUNDS OF GREATER CONSONANCE WITH MC-161/75, FOR TWO REASONS:

A. PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF CONSONANCE BETWEEN PRESENT DRAFT LANGUAGE AND MC-161/75, BUT OF SELECTIVE PARAPHRASING AND QUOTEATION FROM PART II, SECTION 4, PARAS 22 AND 26, AND PART IV, SECTION 4, PARA 30 OF THAT DOCUMENT. IN THIS REGARD, THE US VERSION IS BETTER BALANCED.

B. WE SEE MATTER OF CONSONANCE OF EITHER VERSION WITH NATO INTELLIGENCE DOCUMENT AS MATTER FOR EXPERTS RATHER THAN MINISTERS. CLEAR THRUST OF MC-161 AS A WHOLE IS THAT A RANGE OF WP PREPARATION TIMES IS POSSIBLE; THEREFORE NATO MUST PREPARE FOR CONTINGENCIES ACROSS THIS RANGE OF TIMES, AND BE WILLING AND ABLE TO COUNTERACT WP PREPARATIONS AS NECESSARY TO MATCH THE PACT BUILDUP STEP-BY-STEP FOR DETERRENT EFFECT AND DEFENSIVE STRENGTH. IT IS THIS ELEMENT WE BELIEVE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER SHOULD STRESS.
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